

But Thou, O LORD, Art A Shield For Me (Psalm 3)

God interrupts our dangers.

Proposition: God can interrupt the danger surrounding every child of God by applying the following four principals laid out in out text.

- I. By Delivering up the Source of our Danger (Vs. 1-2)
 - A. The Amount of the Enemy (Vs. 1-2)
 - B. The Action of the Enemy (Vs. 1-2)
 - C. The Assumption of the Enemy (Vs. 1-2)
 - D. The Aim of the Endangered (Vs. 1-2)
- II. By Depending on the Sovereign over our Danger (Vs. 3-4)
 - A. God is my Shield (Vs. 3a)
 - B. God is my Splendor (Vs. 3b)
 - C. God is my Support (Vs. 3c)
 - D. God is my Supply (Vs. 4)
- III. By Displaying a Security in the midst of our Danger (Vs. 5-6)
 - A. Have Security during Sleep (Vs. 5)
 - B. Have Security during Surrounding (Vs. 6)
- IV. By Directing our Sight above our Danger (Vs. 7-8)
 - A. Set your Sights on God's Strength (Vs. 7)
 - B. Set your Sights on God's Salvation (Vs. 8)

But Thou, O Lord, art a shield for me Ps 3:1-8

As a child, I was always poking around the hammocking for new things to play with. Once I found a piece of $\frac{3}{4}$ plywood that was cut in the shape of a circle. It was about 3" in diameter and I knew immediately what to do with it. I took it to the house and got some red rope-like straps and nailed them on either side of the wood. On the other side with crayon I wrote strange and cackiest looking symbols. Finally it was done. I had made an invincible shield. A shield that would for years protect me from the fiery arrows of imaginary enemies. But in our day to day lives our enemies are not

imaginary. The goliath-like world, the wild

I. By Delivering up the Source of Our Danger (Vs 1-2)
It is critically important to know the background of our psalm. It was written when Absalom ^{Lord.} overthrew his father. All turned against David. He sought

A. The Amount of the Enemy (Vs 1-2) - Not the world increased and many. During this time of revolt, David who once had the heart of the people was now being rejected by more & more. (Sam 15:12). Not only Absalom, but Achitophel, faithful counsele^{Jesus?}, Generals & soldiers? Church turmoil.

B. The Action of the Enemy (Vs 1-2) - These are not just enemies that are a far off and that we look at with disdain. No these are enemies that are applying force. To trouble = to squeeze. They harass... not to cover over me. Too many. A ^{Situations} No man

C. The Assumption of the Enemy (Vs 1-2) - They were saying that God had left him. The word help is almost always translated salvation. Could it be they were threatening David's sin in his face saying: God's not going to save you this time.

D. The Aim of the Endangered (Vs 1-2) - But what are these two verses? Look at the first word. Lord! Not complaining to advisers, not unloading on his friends or wife, but he is delivering up his dangers to a heavenly father that hears & answers prayer.

II. By Depending on the Sovereign Over Our Dangers (Vs 3-4) I can't read this psalm w/o thinking of the Brooklyn Tab singing it. The coruse: But then Lord! God interrupts our dangers. Don't depend on self.

A. God is my Shield (Vs 3a) - The word shield here is more than what we think of as a shield. It was a buckler round about. A protection that entirely surrounds a person. Companies of ³removal soldiers, shield on all sides. Springsteen said: Depend upon divine protection

B. God is my Splendor (Vs 3b) - 'My Glory' Remember David was chased off of his throne. Slandered and disregarded by most of his people. To the world his glory and splendor as King was stripped away. But David knew that these came from God. As moon reflects

C. God is my Support (Vs 3c) - Remember in Ps. 23 the Lord is my Shepherd. Daily the Shepherd would inspect the sheep. Lift their heads and apply ointment to wounds created from hulking heads, thorns, and pest. God is the encourager the lifter. At Ziklag David encouraged self in the Lord.

- 1) ...the wild beast called the flesh, and the roaring lion called the devil are consistently attacking. No wooden shield pulled from the scrap head will protection against their onslights. But as children of God, believers on the Lord Jesus Christ, we do have access to a heavenly shield, a divine protection. God can interrupt the dangers surrounding every child of God by applying the following four principals laid out in out text.
- 2) 2 Samuel 15:12 And Absalom sent for Ahithophel the Gilonite, David's counsellor, from his city, even from Giloh, while he offered sacrifices. And the conspiracy was strong; for the people increased continually with Absalom.

- 3) Spurgeon - Oh! what a shield is God for his people! He wards off the fiery darts of Satan from beneath, and the storms of trials from above, while, at the same instant, he speaks peace to the tempest within the breast.

4) ...As the moon reflects the brightness of the sun, so our honor and glory is a reflection of the same in our heavenly father!

1) ...the same thing as to answer.

2) ...Thomas a Kempis – Oh, how great peace and quietness would possess who should cut off all vain anxiety and place all confidence in God.

3) ...burning the station. Paton and his wife prayed through night in hopes that God would deliver them. When daybreak came the natives were gone. A year later when the tribal chief was converted to Christ, Paton asked him why they did not attack! The chief was surprised by Paton's question. He asked "Who were all those men with you?" Although Paton knew no other men, the chief said he was afraid to attack because he had seen hundreds of big men in shining garments who circled the mission station with their swords drawn.

D. God is my Supply (Vs.4) - Once again prayer plays a major role in our protection enemies and danger. God answers pray. Paul cried aloud to God and Hallelujah God heard and as one author wrote "for God to hear, according to scripture, the same thing" ^①

III. By Displaying a Security in the midst of our Danger (Vs 5-6) In these verses David is displaying a secure confidence in God! Security, in his ability and his protection!

A. Have Security during Sleep (Vs 5) - Times of sleep are very vulnerable times. I have heard that in some branches of the military they teach the soldiers to sleep with their eyes open to be more alert to dangers. Some times rest and sleep are the most difficult when life is filled with dangers. David is in the same now. His enemies are scouring the country side looking for Him and yet David placing his security in the hands of the Almighty pulls up a pillow and falls fast asleep. Rest in His protection. Thomas a Kempis said

B. Have Security during Surrounding (Vs 6) - David is not underestimating his enemies and the danger he is facing. Ten Thousand ^{alone} Plural. More than one! A land full of men is no match for a surrounding army of 10,000's. Yet with God all things are possible. One night while John Paton was a missionary in the New Hebrides Islands, his mission station was surrounded by hostile natives. They were intent on killing the Paton's and burning the ^③

IV. By Directing our Sight above our Fanges

(Vs 7-8)- Often when facing danger or enemies our focus is on their ability, their strength and other tactics. But David's is not his sight is set

A. Set your Sights on God's Strength (Vs 7)-

I am reminded of Ps 119: 156. It is the Lord who shows your strength. It is remarkable that the psalm begins with the attacks from the enemy coming from their mouths. Here God silences those mouths. And the tense of the verse is helpful. David is praying as though it's a done deal. This is our confidence when facing the enemies that surround us. Focus on God's Strength not the enemies! God will hear! God will protect!

B. Set your Sights on God's Salvation (Vs 8)

Victory and triumph is not in the hands of the enemy. Salvation belongeth unto the Lord! Your enemy may whisper defeat in your ear time and time again, he may seem to be coming in on all sides! But salvation belongs to Him! Your fate is not in the hands of your adversary in rests security in the hands of God. William Cenper wrote - it makes no matter what our enemies

V. Closing - This blessing of divine protection is only for the people of God. This message is null & void for those that know not God their faith and trust in what Jesus Christ did on the cross of Calvary for your sins.

1) Psalms 119:126 It is time for thee, LORD, to work: for they have made void thy law.

2) what our enemies be, though for number, legions; for power, principalities; for subtlety, serpents; for cruelty, dragons; for vantage of place, a prince of the air; for maliciousness, spiritual wickedness; stronger is he that is in us, than they who are against us; nothing is able to separate us from the love of God.
In Christ Jesus our Lord, we shall be more than conquerors.